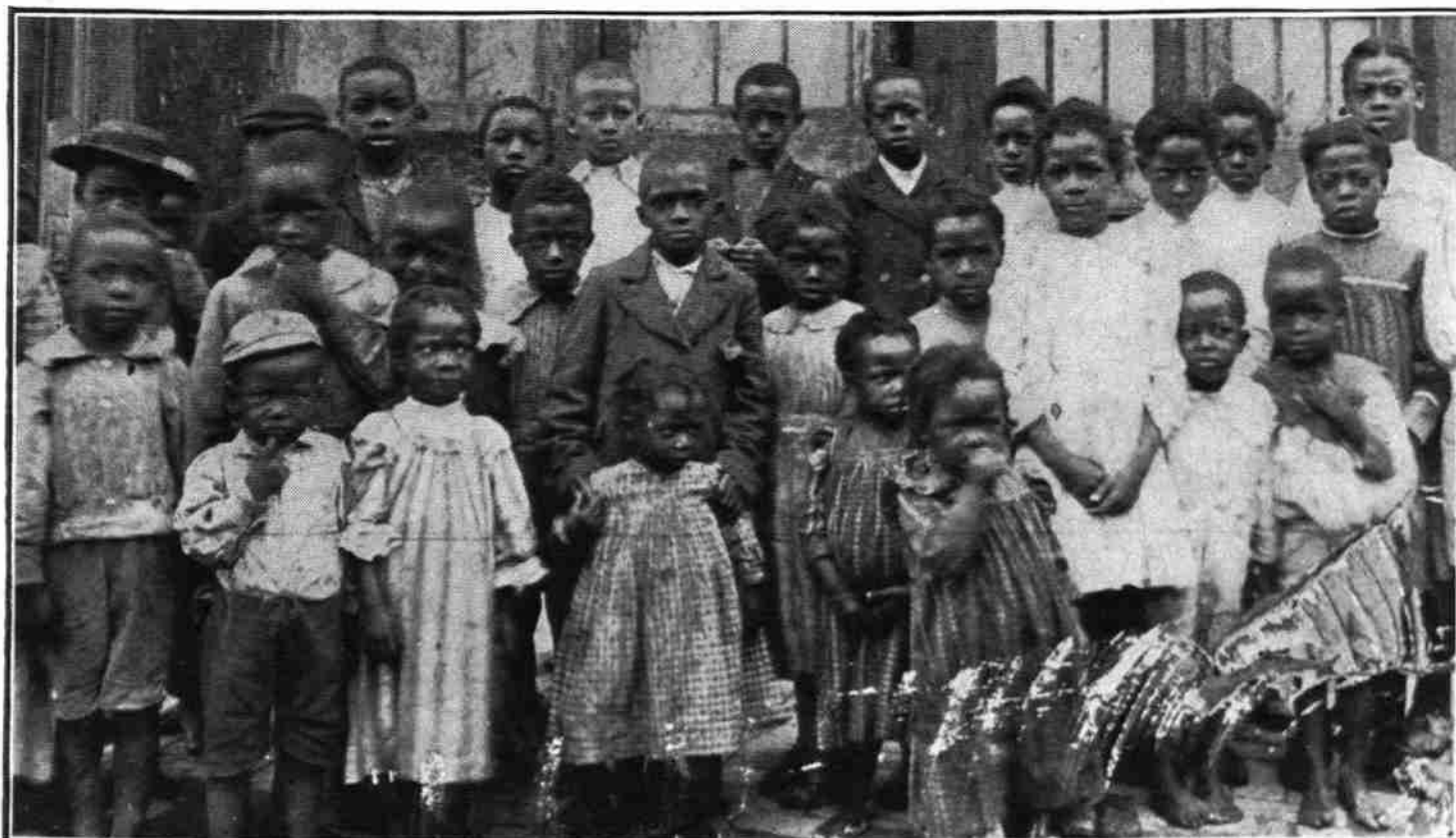


medical colleges have made many visits and have performed all surgical operations. (It is difficult to persuade any ignorant colored person to have an operation, no matter what the nature of the disease, or how dangerous the condition. Again and again we have seen people die simply because they refused absolutely to accept the relief offered. Their dread of the hospital is most pathetic.)

The theological students were only temporary residents in the city, and it was their original intention to continue this Sunday-school until their school term closed. The Sunday-school was in a prosperous condition and it seemed unwise to abandon it.

Women as Teachers mark a New Epoch

One of these students secured work in a white mission, for which he received a salary of twenty dollars a month, and continued to superintend the colored Sunday-school without any remuneration. He visited some of the white churches and persuaded half a dozen members, representing several denominations, to assist during the summer months. Among these were



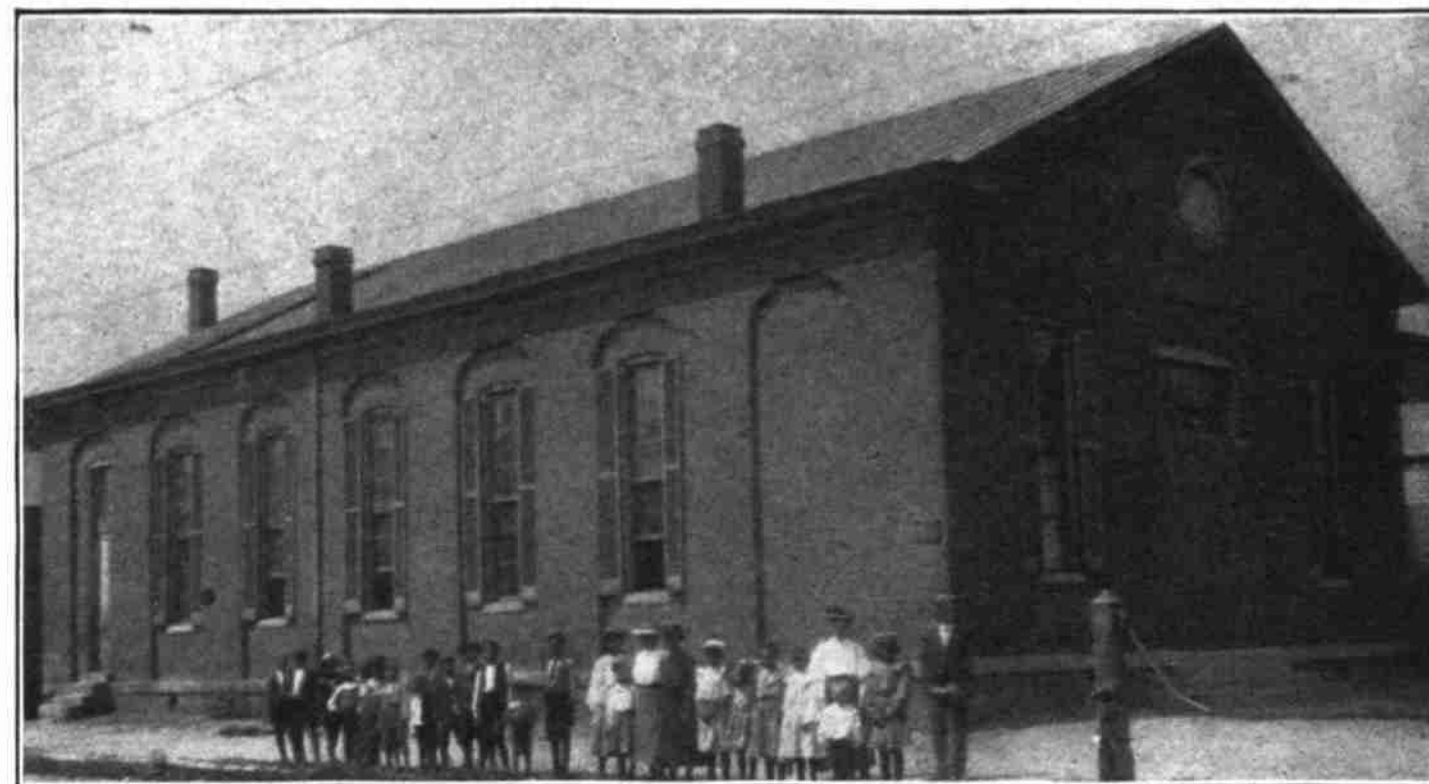
THE NUCLEUS OF A SUNDAY SCHOOL

Founded in April, 1899, from which the Hancock Street Chapel, with 450 pupils, developed.

several women, and their advent marked a new epoch in the history of the mission, and in after years enabled us to organize various forms of industrial work, which would have been impossible without their sympathy, advice, and help.

Students were again Sent Out

When the students returned the next session, the local teachers were persuaded to continue their classes, and these students were



THE HANCOCK STREET CHAPEL BUILDING

Purchased in 1902. Well lighted and well ventilated. Four hundred and fifty pupils from fifty different streets are in regular attendance.

sent out to gather new recruits. Two smaller rooms adjoining the building were rented and used by the additional classes, one as a primary room. Efforts to secure new pupils have ceased because every available space is filled with chairs, and frequently the teachers have to stand because there are no vacant seats.

“I will Get You a Crowd of Boys”

A colored boy about fourteen years old began to attend our night services and asked why we did not come out to “Smoke Town,” a mile south of our mission, and start a Sunday-school. He said, “I will get you a crowd of boys.” Not once, but week after week, he came. At first we refused, saying that with our studies in the seminary we did not have time to carry on another mission, and, besides, we did not have the money to rent another building. His requests, however, were so urgent and so persistent that finally a committee was appointed to visit “Smoke Town,” a district then unknown to us, to see whether there were many Negroes living in this new found district, and if a suitable building could be secured for a Sunday-school.

The committee reported that a small room about a mile distant from the other mission could be secured for \$4.50 a month, that the room was furnished with twenty-four chairs, and was in the midst of a Negro community. The Negroes in this section of the city, however, were of a much better class—industrious, law-abiding, and of superior intelligence. Some owned their homes, and most of them dwelt in small cottages.